advisories to the State Governments, from time to time, on police related matters. Recently, on 5.1.2000, the Central Government has set up a Committee under the chairmanship of Shri K. Padmanabhaiah, ex-Union Home Secretary, with the following main terms of reference:—

(i) to examine and specify the challenges that the police in India would face during the next millennium;

(ii) to evaluate the strength and weaknesses of the police forces, as it is organised and structured today, to see if it would be able to meet those challenges;

(iii) to understand and appreciate the gap between the public expectations and the police performance and whether this gap can be filled without making any basic changes in the structure, organisation and the attitudes of the police;

(iv) to envision a new look, cultured, people friendly and a fighting-fit police force which is able to win the confidence and trust of the people and, at the same time, can tackle effectively the problems of organised crime, militancy and terrorism.'

Persons found guilty of petty Offences

2178. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to amend relevant acts to introduce mandatory labour in public institutions for those found guilty of petty offences instead of putting them in jails;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to educate petty offenders to realise their mistakes instead of putting them in jail where they are forced to become professional criminals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Law Commission of India, which undertook a comprehensive study/review of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, has not recommended mandatory labour in public institutions as an alternative mode of punishment. The Report of the Law Commission of India has been referred to the State Governments for their views.

(c) Apart from sentencing criminals to jail sentence, the legal system recognizes reformative theory. The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 and the probation of Offenders Act, 1958 reflect the reformative approach.